

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

While the primary restraint system described above (and described in more detail in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,239,933 and 5,302,063) has been widely adapted and generally relatively effective in restraining vehicles, such as conventional automobiles, ~~van~~vans, trucks and certain SUVs, a problem has developed in relation to new types of vehicles, currently called "cross-over" vehicles. Cross-over vehicles generally include a truck or SUV-type body mounted on an automobile-type frame. Such vehicles currently include the ~~Pontiac Vibe~~ PONTIAC VIBE vehicle, the ~~Toyota Matrix~~ TOYOTA MATRIX vehicle and other similar vehicles. These cross-over vehicles have a higher center of gravity and a much lower curb weight than conventional automobiles and SUV's, but include relatively low fenders, moldings and bumpers (compared to certain trucks, vans and SUVs). When cross-over vehicles are loaded in an auto-rack railroad car on the grating of the vehicle restraint system described above, it has been found that the restraint system and, particularly, the primary restraints are not adequately holding these vehicles in place or preventing the movement of the vehicles to a minimum desired level of movement.

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 18 of page 10:

Fig. 13 is a side elevation view of the supplemental restraint of one embodiment of the present invention illustrating the pad attached to the bottom of the mounting member.

Fig. 14 is a cross-sectional view of an alternative embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to ~~Figs. 3~~Figs. 4 to 12, the supplemental restraint of one embodiment of the present invention, generally indicated by numerical 50, is illustrated in the non-expanded position in Figs. 4, 5, 7 and 9 and in the fully expanded position in Figs. 6, 8 and 10. The supplemental restraint 50 of the illustrated embodiment of the present invention includes a body 52 and an expander or expansion member 54 connected to the body 52.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 33 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one embodiment, a rubber mounting pad ~~(not shown)~~102 shown in Fig. 13 is suitably attached to the bottom of the mounting member 56 to increase the frictional engagement between the bottom of the mounting member 56 and the grating 38. Since in one embodiment, the grating 38 and the mounting member 56, are both metal, the rubber pad increases the friction between the bottom of the mounting member 56 and the grating 38 and reduces unwanted sliding of the supplemental restraint 50 relative to the grating 38. The mounting pad also functions to reduce or eliminate wear between the supplemental restraint and the grating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The expander 54 further includes a suitable releasable locking assembly or mechanism adapted to releasably lock the expanding member 70 relative to the base 72 in each of the positions including the non-expanded position, the fully expanded position, and the partially expanded positions. In the illustrated embodiment, the releasable locking assembly or mechanism includes a locking member or pin 88 and a plurality of locking receptacles or notches 90a to 90q each adapted to receive the locking pin 88. In one embodiment, the locking pin 88 is a ball nosed spring loaded plunger which is biased toward the expanding member 70. In the illustrated embodiment, (a) when the pin 88 is in receptacle 90a (as in Fig. 10), the expanding

member is in the fully expanded position, (b) when the pin 88 is in the receptacle 90q (as in Fig. 9), the expanding member is in the non-expanded position, and (c) when the pin 88 is in any of the receptacles 90b to 90r such as 90j, the expanding member is in a partially expanded position. Fig. 14 illustrates pin 88 extending from the expanding member 70 and the notch 90 in the base 72. It should be appreciated that other suitable locking or positioning mechanisms can be employed in the present invention. For instance, the base and the expanding member can respectively include co-acting teeth or ridges, peaks and valleys, or other locking or stopping structures. These structures can be on one or more corresponding surfaces of the base and expanding member.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one embodiment, the body, the expanding member of the expander and the handle are each made from a cast aluminum. The body, expanding member, and handle can alternatively be made from a nylon, ~~DCPD, ABS~~ _____
_____Dicyclopentadiene, Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene or polycarbonate. It should further be appreciated that the entire supplemental restraint including the body, expander and handle could be made from any one or more suitable materials, including other metals, plastics, ceramics and composite materials or combinations thereof.